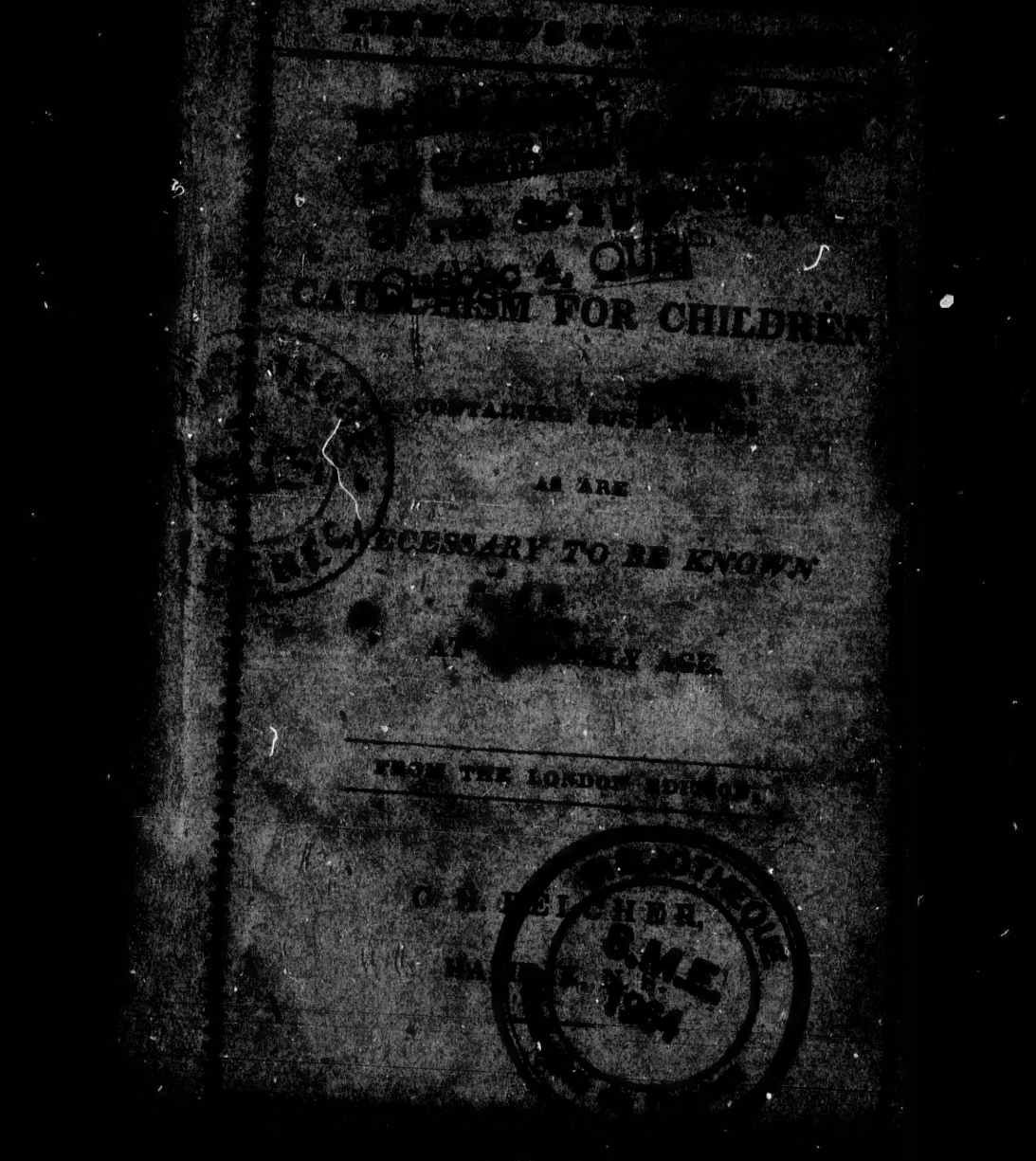

CATECHISM FOR CHILDREN
AS ARE
NECESSARY TO BE KNOWN
FROM THE LONDON EDITION
S.M.E.
1824

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PINNOCK'S FIRST CATECHISM FOR CHILDREN;

CONTAINING SUCH THINGS

AS ARE

NECESSARY TO BE KNOWN

AT AN EARLY AGE.

FROM THE LONDON EDITION.

BIBLIOTHEQUE SME QUEBEC

C. H. BELCHER,

HALIFAX, N. S.

1837.

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THE
FIRST CATECHISM
FOR
CHILDREN.

CHAPTER I.

Question. WHAT is the meaning of the word Catechism?

Answer. Instruction by question and answer.

Q. What is instruction?

A. The act of teaching, or communicating knowledge.

Q. What is the use of teaching?

A. We are all born in a state of ignorance, and want some one to instruct us how to act so as that we may attain happiness in this world and the next.

Q. How shall we learn to act well?

A. We must first learn to think correctly, and to form a right judgement about the things which we meet.

Q. And how is this to be done?

A. Our teachers inform us of the nature of the different objects with which we are to meet, and acquaint us with their use and value.

Q. What is this kind of knowledge called?

A. Wisdom, which all men should labour to obtain.

Q. What is the most important thing to be learned?

A. Our duty towards God, for "the fear of God is the beginning of wisdom."

Q. Who is God?

A. The Almighty Being who has made us, and who created the heavens and the earth, with all things that they contain.

Q. What do you mean by Almighty?

A. Able to do all things, the Ruler and Governor of all.

CHAPTER II.

Of the Creation.

Q. WHAT is the meaning of the word Creation?

A. The act of making a thing out of nothing.

Q. How did God make all things?

A. By the power of his word; for he commanded, and it was done.

Q. How long was God making the world?

A. Six days.

Q. What was his work on the first day?

A. On the first day God created the earth and the light.

Q. What did God make on the second day?

A. The firmament: that is, the air and the clouds.

Q. What did God do on the third day?

A. On the third day he separated the earth from the sea, and caused the trees and herbs to grow out of the ground.

Q. What was his work on the fourth day?

A. On the fourth day he made the sun, the moon, and the stars.

Q. What was the work of the fifth day?

A. On the fifth day God created the fowls and fishes of every kind.

Q. What was the work of the sixth day?

A. On the sixth day God created man and beast, and every creeping thing on the face of the earth.

Q. What did God on the seventh day?

A. He rested from his work of creation and set apart the seventh day for a holy sabbath or a day of rest.

CHAPTER III.

On the Nature of Man.

Q. Of what parts are we composed?

A. Of body and soul; our body is formed of the earth, and when we die will perish, for "dust we are and unto dust we must return;" but our soul is immortal, and when it leaves the body must return to the "God that gave it."

Q. What do you mean by immortal?

A. Not subject to death.

Q. Where are we to learn what becomes of the soul after death?

A. In the Bible.

Q. What is told us there?

A. That after death we shall all be judged for the "deeds done in the body," after which, "the wicked shall be sent into everlasting punishment, and the righteous shall receive life eternal."

Q. Who are the wicked?

A. Those persons who disobey the commandments of God.

Q. Who are the righteous?

A. Those who perform their duty to God and man.

Q. How is our duty summed up?

A. We are told in the New Testament to love God with all our hearts, and to love our neighbours as ourselves.

Q. Are we able to do this by ourselves?

A. No, but if we pray to God he will assist us with his grace.

Q. Who is the devil?

A. The evil spirit that tempts us to sin.

CHAPTER IV.

The Bible.

Q. WHAT is the meaning of the word Bible?

A. THE BOOK, and it is always applied to that book which contains the revelation of God's will to mankind.

Q. What do you mean by revelation?

A. An explanation given by God, the fountain of all wisdom, of those things which by ourselves we should not have been able to discover.

Q. How is the Bible divided?

A. Into the Old and New Testaments. The former containing the Jewish, and the latter the Christian dispensation.

Q. What do you mean by the Jewish dispensation.

A. The system of laws that God provided for the government of the Jews, who were his peculiar people.

Q. What is meant by the Christian dispensation?

A. The rules of conduct taught by Jesus Christ and His Apostles, shewing men how to conduct themselves in this world so as that they may ever live with God in the world to come.

Q. What is contained in the Old Testament?

A. The books of the Old Testament may be divided into the historical, poetical, and prophetical.

Q. What general account may be given of the historical books?

A. They contain the history of the world from the creation to the flood, and from the flood to the call of Abraham; from which time they give an account only of the people descended from Abraham, who are commonly called Jews.

Q. What are the prophecies?

A. Things foretold by the Spirit of God which the natural wisdom of man could not have foreseen.

Q. What are the contents of the New Testament?

A. The four Gospels, or four histories of the life

of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Epistles or Letters of St. Paul and the other Apostles to the Churches, and the Book of Revelations.

CHAPTER V.

Of the History of Mankind.

Q. WHO were the first man and woman that God made?

A. Adam and Eve.

Q. In what state did God create them?

A. In a holy and happy state, and after his own image or likeness.

Q. Where did God place Adam and Eve?

A. In the garden of Eden, to keep it and take care of it.

Q. What does the word Eden signify?

A. Pleasure; consequently the garden of Eden means a garden of pleasure.

Q. Is not the garden of Eden sometimes called Paradise?

A. Yes; Paradise signifying also a happy abode, or state of bliss.

Q. Why were Adam and Eve expelled from this happy place?

A. Because they disobeyed God's commands.

Q. Who were Adam's son's?

A. Cain and Abel.

Q. Which was his elder son?

A. Cain.

Q. What was the employment of Cain and of Abel?

A. Cain was a tiller of the ground, and Abel was a keeper of sheep.

Q. What dreadful crime did Cain commit?

A. He killed his brother Abel.

Q. Why did Cain kill his brother?

A. From indulging in envy, because God accepted Abel's offering, and rejected his.

Q. What became of Cain afterwards?

A. He was driven from his family, and became an outcast and wanderer on the earth.

CHAPTER VI.

Of the Five Natural Senses.

Q. WHAT are the five natural senses?

A. Seeing, hearing, smelling, feeling, and tasting.

Q. What is the organ of seeing?

A. The eye.

Q. What is the organ of hearing?

A. The ear.

Q. What is the organ of smelling?

A. The nose.

Q. What do you understand by feeling?

A. Feeling is a sense spread over the whole body, but most eminently placed in the ends of the fingers.

Q. What are the principal qualities which we can discern by the touch?

A. Solidity, hardness, softness, smoothness,

roughness, dryness, wetness, and the like; but the most considerable are heat and cold.

Q. What are the organs of taste?

A. The tongue and the palate?

Q. What is the palate?

A. The upper part of the roof of the mouth.

Q. What is meant by the word organ?

A. Any part of the animal body, that is capable of performing some perfect act or operation; thus, the eye is the organ of seeing; the ear of hearing; the nose of smelling; the tongue of speaking, &c. as before explained.

CHAPTER VII.

Of Time, and its Parts.

Q. WHAT is meant by time?

A. The period during which any thing lasts or continues.

Q. What are the usual measures or divisions of time?

A. Centuries, years, months, weeks, days, hours, minutes and seconds.

Q. What is a century?

A. One hundred years.

Q. What is the most complete division of time?

A. The year; being the time in which all the seasons occur in succession.

Q. How many seasons are there in a year?

A. Four.

Q. What are they called?

A. Spring, Summer, Autumn, and Winter.

Q. When does Spring begin and end?

A. *Spring* begins about the middle of March, and ends in June.

Q. When does Summer begin and end?

A. *Summer* begins in June, and ends in August.

Q. When does Autumn begin and end?

A. *Autumn* begins in August, when the corn is ripe, and ends in November.

Q. When does Winter begin and end?

A. *Winter* begins in November, and ends in March, when it is again followed by Spring.

CHAPTER VIII.

Of Time (continued.)

Q. How many months are there in a year?

A. Twelve.

Q. What are their names?

A. January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, and December.

Q. How many weeks are there in a year?

A. Fifty-two.

Q. How many days are there in a week?

A. Seven.

Q. What are their names?

A. Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

Q. How many hours are there in a day?

A. Twenty-four.

Q. How many minutes in an hour?

A. Sixty.

Q. How many seconds in a minute?

A. Sixty.

Q. When does the year begin?

A. On the first day of January, hence called New Year's Day.

Q. Which is the last day in the year?

A. The thirty-first of December.

Q. Which is the longest day?*

A. The twenty-first of June.

Q. Which is the shortest day?*

A. The twenty-first of December.

Q. How many days does each month consist of?

A. Thirty days hath September,
April, June, and November;
February has twenty-eight alone,
And all the rest have thirty-one.
But leap-year, coming once in four,
Gives February one day more.

Q. Why is every fourth year called leap-year?

A. Because of its leaping over, or containing, a day more than the common year.

Q. How many days are there in a year?

---

* The *longest* day at Greenwich is sixteen hours, thirty-four minutes, and five seconds; the *shortest* day, seven hours, forty-four minutes, and seventeen-seconds

A. Three hundred and sixty-five days, and about six hours.

Q. What becomes of the remaining six hours?

A. At the end of every four years, the remainders are added together, making such fourth year to consist of three hundred and sixty-six days; February having twenty-nine days in that year instead of twenty-eight. This is called leap-year.

CHAPTER IX.

Of the Quarter Days.

Q. WHAT are the usual quarter-days?

A. Lady-day, Midsummer-day, Michaelmas-day, and Christmas-day.

Q. On what day does Lady-Day fall?

A. On the twenty-fifth of March.

Q. Why is it called Lady-day?

A. Because it was devoted to the honour of the Virgin Mary, formerly universally, and still in some countries, styled *Our Lady*.

Q. When does Midsummer-day happen?

A. On the twenty-fourth of June.

Q. Why is the twenty-fourth of June called Midsummer-day?

A. Because it is generally considered to be the *middle* of that part of the year called *Summer*, as opposed to the other portion of the year called *Winter*.

Q. At what period of the year does Michaelmas-day fall?

A. On the twenty-ninth of September.

Q. Why is that called Michaelmas-day?

A. On account of its being marked in the calendar as the feast of St. Michael the Arch-angel, in honour of whom this festival was established in the year 487.

Q. When happens the Quarter-day called Christmas-day?

A. On the twenty-fifth of December.

Q. Why is that called Christmas-day?

A. From its being the great Festival held in memory of the birth of our blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Q. For what are the quarter-days remarkable?

A. They are the days on which most houses and lands are let and hired, rents and salaries paid, and many other transactions in life adjusted.

CHAPTER X.

Of the Divisions of a Day.

Q. WHAT are the divisions of a day?

A. The day is divided into morning, noon, afternoon, evening, and night.

Q. What is the Morning?

A. The *Morning* is the first part of the day of twenty-four hours, from the appearance of light till twelve o'clock at *Noon*.

Q. What is Noon?

A. *Noon* is, when the sun is highest, and due south; being exactly twelve o'clock.

Q. What is Afternoon?

A. The *Afternoon* is that portion of time from twelve o'clock at noon till the evening or the going down of the sun.

Q. What is the Evening?

A. The close of the day, a little before, and a little after the setting of the sun, is *Evening;* at which time the light is very faint, and is called Twilight.

Q. What is Night?

A. The *Night* is the portion of time from the setting of the sun till his appearance in the morning, when another day begins.*

CHAPTER XI.

Of the four Cardinal Points, or Points of the Compass.

Q. WHAT are the four Cardinal Points?

A. North, East, West, and South.

Q. Why are these points called cardinal?

A. From being the chief, or principal.

Q. Which is the North?

A. That part of the heavens which is opposite the sun, seen at twelve o'clock.

Q. Which is the East?

A. That part in which the sun rises.

Q. Which is the West?

A. That part in which the sun sets.

* What is called the astronomical day, begins at midnight.

Q. Which is the South?

A. The South is that part of the heavens in which the sun is seen at twelve o'clock.

CHAPTER XII.

Of Trade and Figures.

Q. WHAT is trade?

A. The art of buying and selling goods.

Q. What knowledge is the most necessary in trade?

A. A knowledge of figures.

Q. What are figures?

A. Certain signs and characters made use of in reckoning.

Q. What are these signs and characters?

A. These characters are as follow:

1	One	5	Five	8	Eight
2	Two	6	Six	9	Nine
3	Three	7	Seven	0	Cypher.
4	Four				

Q. How do you write ten?

A. Thus, 10, by putting a cypher on the right hand side of the figure 1.

Q. You say these characters are made use of in reckoning, therefore let me hear you count from ten to twenty.

A.	11	Eleven	16	Sixteen
	12	Twelve	17	Seventeen
	13	Thirteen	18	Eighteen
	14	Fourteen	19	Nineteen
	15	Fifteen	20	Twenty.

Q. Now count from twenty to thirty.

A. 21 Twenty-one
22 Twenty-two
23 Twenty-three
24 Twenty-four
25 Twenty-five
26 Twenty-six
27 Twenty-seven
28 Twenty-eight
29 Twenty-nine
30 Thirty.

CHAPTER XIII.

Of the Rules in Arithmetic.

Q. WHAT is the science of computing by figures called?

A. Arithmetic.

Q. What is the first rule in Arithmetic?

A. Addition.

Q. What do you mean by addition?

A. The method of finding a *sum* of two or more numbers; it is marked by the sign $+$ as equality is by the sign $=$; thus, $3 + 4 + 5 = 12$ means that 3, 4, and 5 added together make up the sum 12.

Q. What is the second rule in Arithmetic?

A. Subtraction.

Q. What do you mean by subtraction?

A. It is the method by which we find the *difference* between two numbers; it is marked by the sign $-$: thus $8 - 5 = 3$, signifies that if 5 be subtracted from 8, the remainder or difference will be 3.

Q. What is the third rule in Arithmetic?

A. Multiplication.

Q. What do you mean by multiplication?

Multiplication is the repeated addition of the same, thus 7 multiplied 6, means the sum of six sevens added together: it is marked by the sign $\div$; thus, $7 \div 6 = 42$, means that 6 sevens added together, or that 6 multiplied by 7 will make 42.

Q. Are there any particular names given to the quantities used in multiplication?

A. Yes; the two numbers multiplied together are called *factors*, and the result is called the *product*.

Q. What is the fourth rule in Arithmetic?

A. Division.

Q. What do you mean by division?

A. Division is a repeated subtraction, thus 40 divided by 5 means that 5 is to be continually subtracted from 40 until there is either no remainder or a remainder less than 5. It is marked by the sign $\div$; thus $40 \div 5 = 8$; or, as it is more usually expressed $= 8$ means that 5 can be subtracted from 40, 8 times, or that 40 divided by 5 will give 8 as an answer.

Q. What names are given to the quantities used in division.

A. The number divided is called the *dividend*, that by which it is divided is named the *divisior*, and the result is called the *quotient*; thus in the former example 40 is the dividend, 5 the divisor, and 8 the quotient.

Q. What are the principal rules in the art of figures?

A. Those I have repeated; Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication, and Division.

Q. What is the most important table used in Arithmetic?

A. The Multiplication Table.

Q. Repeat the Multiplication Table.*

A.

Twice	2 is 4	3-times	10 30	5-times	10 50	8-times	8 is 64
	3 6		11 33		11 55		9 72
	4 8		12 36		12 60		10 80
	5 10						11 88
	6 12	4-times	4 is 16	6-times	6 is 36		12 96
	7 14		5 20		7 42		
	8 16		6 24		8 48	9-times	9 is 81
	9 18		7 28		9 54		10 90
	10 20		8 32		10 60		11 99
	11 22		9 36		11 66		12 108
	12 24		10 40		12 72		
			11 44			10-times	10 is 100
3-times	3 is 9		12 48	7-times	7 is 49		11 110
	4 12				8 56		12 120
	5 15	5-times	5 is 25		9 63		
	6 18		6 30		10 70	11-times	11 is 121
	7 21		7 35		11 77		12 132
	8 24		8 40		12 84		
	9 27		9 45			12-times	12 is 144

CHAPTER XIV.

Money.

Q. WHAT are the names of copper money?

A. Farthing, half-penny, and penny. Two farthings are equal to a half-penny; and four farthings to a penny.

* This Table should be carefully committed to memory in small portions at a time, until the pupil is thoroughly conversant with the whole.

Q. What are the names of the silver money now current in England?

A. Sixpence, shilling, half-crown, and crown.

Q. What is the value of a shilling, a half-crown, and a crown?

A. A shilling is worth twelve pence: a half crown is worth two shillings and six pence: and a crown five shillings.

Q. What are the names and value of the gold coins at present in circulation?

A. A sovereign, worth twenty shillings; and a half-sovereign, worth ten shillings. Guineas, worth twenty-one shillings; and half-guineas, worth ten shillings and six-pence, each, are now seldom seen.

Q. What is a pound?

A. A sum of money worth twenty-shillings, or a sovereign.

Q. What are Bank notes?

A. They are slips of thin paper, made and issued by the bank of England, on which is printed the promise of the Governor and Company of the Bank to pay the amount set forth thereon on demand. Similar notes are issued by country bankers, for circulation in their own neighbourhood. For all such notes, which represent money, articles may be bought as well as for gold or silver.

Q. What is the value of a bank note?

A. Various, according to the sum written upon it: some bank notes are for **Five Pounds**; some for

Ten Pounds; fifty, or a hundred; some as high as **One Thousand Pounds**, and upwards*.

CHAPTER XV.

Money (continued.)

Q. WHAT do the following characters denote: £. *s. d. q.*?

A. They are the initials or first letters, of the Latin words—*Libræ*, denoting pounds; *Solidi*, shillings; *Denarii*, pence; and *Quadrantes*, farthings.

Q. What do the following fractions ¼, ½, ¾, denote when they are annexed to pence?

A. ¼, or one quarter, one farthing; ½, or two quarters, two farthings, or a halfpenny; ¾, or three quarters, three farthings.

Q. Repeat the first Pence Table.

	d.		*s.*	*d.*		*d.*		*s.*	*d.*
A.	20	are	1	8		80	are	6	8
	30	are	2	6		90	are	7	6
	40	are	3	4		100	are	8	4
	50	are	4	2		110	are	9	2
	60	are	5	0		120	are	10	0
	70	are	5	10					

*The Bank of England *one pound* and *two pounds'* notes have been withdrawn from circulation.

Q. Repeat the second Pence Table.

	d.		s.		d.		s.
A.	24	are	2		96	are	8
	36	are	3		108	are	9
	48	are	4		120	are	10
	60	are	5		132	are	11
	72	are	6		144	are	12
	84	are	7				

Q. Repeat the Shillings' Table?

	s.		£.	s.		s.		£.	s.
A.	20	are	1	0		70	are	3	10
	30	are	1	10		80	are	4	0
	40	are	2	0		90	are	4	10
	50	are	2	10		100	are	5	0
	60	are	3	0					

CHAPTER XVI.

Of the Earth and its Surface.

Q. WHAT is the earth?

A. The world on which we live.

Q. Of what shape is the earth?

A. It is nearly round, resembling an orange in shape.

Q. How large is the earth?

A. It is more than twenty-four thousand miles round; and its thickness is about eight thousand.

Q. How far is it from the sun?

A. Ninety-five millions of miles.

Q. How far is the earth from the moon?

A. Two hundred and forty thousand miles.

Q. What is the earth composed of?

A. Land and water.

Q. What names are usually given to the water?

A. Oceans, seas, gulfs, straits, rivers, brooks, lakes, and ponds.

Q. What is an ocean?

A. An ocean is a vast body of water, whose bounds are not particularly known; as the Atlantic Ocean.

Q. What is a sea?

A. A sea is also a large body of water, but smaller than an ocean, and confined within certain bounds; as the Mediterranean Sea.

Q. What is a gulf?

A. A gulf is a part of the sea running a considerable distance into the land; as the Gulf of Mexico.

Q. What is a strait?

A. A strait is a narrow passage, by which two large bodies of water communicate with each other; as the Straits of Gibraltar.

Q. What is a river?

A. A large stream of water, which rises in the land, and runs into the sea; as the Thames.

Q. What is a brook?

A. A smaller stream of the same kind.

Q. What is a lake?

A. A large body of water, entirely surrounded by land; as the Lake of Geneva.

Q. What is a pond?

A. A small bed of water in the midst of dry land.

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CHAPTER XVII.

Of the Division of Land.

Q. Of what does land consist?

A. Of continents, islands, peninsulas, isthmuses, capes, and coasts.

Q. What is a continent?

A. A very large tract of land, containing many nations; as the continent of Europe.

Q. What is an island?

A. An island is a tract of land, entirely surrounded with water; as the island of Great Britain.

Q. What is a peninsula?

A. A portion of land almost surrounded by water; as Spain and Portugal.

Q. What is an isthmus?

A. A narrow neck of land, which joins a peninsula to the continent, or which connects two tracts of country together; as the isthmus of Suez, which joins Africa to Asia.

Q. What is a cape?

A. A cape is a point of high land stretching into the sea; as the Cape of Good Hope.

Q. What is a coast?

A. A coast is that part of the land which borders on the sea; as the coast of Kent.

Q. How is the whole earth divided?

A. Into four great parts, called quarters; viz. EUROPE, ASIA, AFRICA, and AMERICA. A fifth part, called AUSTRALIA, or AUSTRALASIA, which includes the islands in the South Sea, has lately been added.

CHAPTER XVIII.

The principal Nations in the World.

Q. WHICH are the chief nations of Europe?

A. Sweden, Russia, Denmark, Prussia, Holland, the German States, Austria, Turkey, France, Switzerland, Italy, Portugal, Spain, and Great Britain and Ireland.

Q. What are the principal nations of Asia?

A. Russia, Turkey, China, Japan, the Birman Empire, Siam, Hindostan, Persia, Tartary, and Arabia.

Q. What are the principal nations of North and South America?

A. The UnitedStates, British Possessions, Spanish Dominions, Portuguese Dominions, States of Mexico, &c.

Q. What are the principal nations of Africa?

A. Egypt, Abyssinia, Morocco, Algiers, Tunis, and Tripoli.

CHAPTER XIX.

Of the Elements and Productions of the Earth.

Q. WHAT are the four Elements.

A. Earth, air, fire, and water.

Q. How are the productions of the earth divided?

A. Into three classes; namely, the animal, vegetable, and mineral kingdoms.

Q. How are these distinguished?

A. Minerals *grow*; vegetables grow and *live*; animals grow, live, and *feel*.

Q. Of what, then, is the first class, or animal kingdom composed?

A. Of all that has life and feeling; viz. man, beasts, birds, fishes and insects.

Q. What forms the vegetable kingdom?

A: Things that have life without feeling; as trees, shrubs, flowers, herbs, grass. &c.

Q. What forms the mineral kingdom?

A. Such things as have neither feeling nor life; as stones and metals.

CHAPTER XX.

Of Metals.

Q. WHAT is the number of metals at this time known?

A. About forty-two.

Q. What are the principal metals?

A. Platinum, gold, silver, mercury (or quick-silver,) copper, iron, tin, and lead.

Q. Which is the heaviest of these metals?

A. Platinum.

Q. Which is the next heaviest?

A. Gold.

Q. Which is the lightest?

A. Tin.

Q. Where is platinum found?

A. In Peru; near Carthagena, in South America; and, lately, in Russia.

Q. Whence have we gold?

A. From New Mexico, in North America; from some parts of South America; and from several places in the East Indies.

Q. Where is silver found?

A. In the mines of Potosi, in South America: also in Norway and Sweden.

Q. Whence is mercury obtained?

A. Mostly from silver mines.

Q. Where is copper found?

A. The best and purest is found in the Swedish mines; but the largest mine is that upon Paris Mountain in the Isle of Anglesea.

Q. How many kinds of copper are there?

A. Three: the common copper, the rose copper, and the virgin copper.

Q. Whence have we iron?

A. Iron is found in most European countries: its best mines in England are those of Colebrook-Dale, Shropshire, and those of the Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire.

Q. Where is tin found?

A. Chiefly in Cornwall and Devonshire; and sometimes in the mines of Bohemia, Saxony, South America, and the East Indies.

Q. Whence have we lead?

A. Lead abounds most in England, the best mines are in Cornwall, Devonshire, Derbyshire, Northumberland, and Durham.

CHAPTER XXI.

Of Metals (continued).

Q. WHAT is bell-metal?

A. Copper mixed with tin.

Q. What is pewter?

A. A mixture of brass, lead, and tin.

Q. What is brass?

A. A compound metal, made of copper and the calamine stone; which renders it yellow and hard.

Q. What sort of substance is calamine?

A. A sort of stone, moderately hard; generally of a grey, brown, yellow, or pale red colour.

Q. Where is it found?

A. It is found plentifully in England, Germany, and several other countries, either in distinct mines, or mixed with other metals.

Q. Where is plumbago, or black lead, for pencils, found?

A. Chiefly in Cumberland?

Q. What are the perfect metals?

A. Gold and silver.

Q. Why are these called perfect?

A. Because they lose nothing by heat.

Q. What is an imperfect metal?

A. One that decreases by the heat of the fire, and can easily be dissolved or corroded by acid.

Q. What does the word corrode signify?

A. To eat away by degrees.

Q. What is an acid?

A. Any thing sour or sharp.

CHAPTER XXII.

Of Metals (continued).

Q. How many sorts of iron are there?

A. Three; forged iron, cast iron, and steel, or refined iron.

Q. What is forged iron?

A. Iron beaten out with large hammers, when red hot, till it becomes softer and more easy to be bent.

Q. What is cast iron?

A. Iron cast into bars; not forged.

Q. How is steel made?

A. By heating bars of iron with charcoal ashes and bone shavings.

Q. For what purpose is this done?

A. To render it whiter, and of a closer grain, after which it will bear a high polish.

Q. What is white lead?

A. Common lead, corroded by the steam of vinegar.

Q. By whom is this lead used?

A. By house-painters, to thicken and dry their paints.

Q. Is not the smell of white lead very hurtful?

A. Yes; being a slow poison.

Q. What is loadstone?

A. A rich iron ore, found in the iron mines of England, Germany, Bengal, &c.

Q. For what is it remarkable?

A. For attracting iron, and giving it an inclination towards the north.

Q. What other property has the loadstone or magnet.

A. The magnet has two poles, one always pointing north, and the other south, hence it is of great use in navigation.

Q. What is navigation?

A. The art of conducting or directing any vessel by water from one place to another.

CHAPTER XXIII.

Of Tea, Coffee, and Chocolate.

Q. WHAT is tea?

A. The dried leaves of an evergreen shrub growing in China.

Q. When was tea first introduced into England?

A. In the reign of Charles the Second?

Q. How many sorts of tea are there?

A. Three sorts of green, and five of bohea tea.

Q. What are the names of the green teas?

A. Imperial, or bloom tea, dear, and in great request in China as well as in Europe; hyson, also a fine tea; and Singlo, so named from the place where it is cultivated.

Q. What are the black teas called?

A. The better sorts are souchong; Camho, named from the province where it is reared; and Pekoe, having small white flowers mixed with it. The other black teas are Congo, and common bohea.

Q. What is gunpowder tea?

A. One of the varieties of green, the leaves of which are dried with additional care.

Q. What causes the different qualities of tea?

A. All the various sorts are the produce of one plant; but the leaves are gathered at different seasons, and dried differently.

Q. What is coffee?

A. The berry of an evergreen shrub growing in Arabia and the West Indies, the leaves of which resemble the laurel.

Q. What is chocolate?

A. A composition made from the cacaonut; a nut about the size of an almond. These nuts being ground into powder, and mixed with sugar, &c. are formed into what are called chocolate *cakes*, such as are sold in the grocers' shops.

Q. Whence are cacao-nuts procured?

A. Chiefly from Venezuela, and other parts of South America.

CHAPTER XXIV.

Of Wine, Beer, Spirits, &c

Q. WHAT is wine?

A. The fermented juice of grapes.

Q. Whence comes Madeira wine?

A. From the island of Madeira, one of the Canary islands, belonging to the Portuguese.

Q. What is Sherry?

A. A sort of wine resembling Madeira, but made in and about Xeres*, in Spain, whence its name.

Q. Whence comes the Red Port, or Port wine, so much esteemed in England?

A. From Portugal.

Q. Whence comes Champagne†?

A. From France.

Q. Where do we get the Rhenish wine?

A. From Germany.

Q. What is beer?

A. A fermented liquor extracted from malt.

Q. What is malt?

A. Barley, steeped in water, and dried by fire.

Q. What is cider?

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* Xeres, pronounced Zeres.

† Champagne, pronounced Shampane.

A. A pleasant drink prepared from apples.

Q. What is perry?

A. A drink prepared from pears, in the same manner as cider from apples.

Q. What is vinegar?

A. An agreeable acid made from wine, cider, beer, &c.

Q. What is rum?

A. A spirit distilled from sugar.

Q. What is brandy?

A. A distillation from wine.

Q. What is gin?

A. A compound liquor drawn from juniper-berries, distilled with brandy or malt spirits.

Q. What is distillation?

A. The act of separating or extracting the virtues of any thing by means of a still.

Q. From what substances are spirits mostly distilled?

A. All saccharine or sugary substances; such as grain, sugar, grapes, turnips, beet-root, &c.

CHAPTER XXV.

Of Fruits.

Q. What is the orange?

A. The fruit of the orange tree; its juice is of a delicious flavour.

Q. Where does the orange-tree grow?

A. Principally in Spain, Portugal, and the West-Indies.

Q. Whence come the China oranges?

A. They originally came from China, but are now produced in Spain, Portugal, the West Indies, and other countries.

Q. What is meant by the Seville orange?

A. That it is an orange growing in the province of Seville, in Spain.

Q. What is the lemon?

A. A well-known fruit, growing plentifully in Spain, Portugal, and Italy.

Q. What is the citron?

A. The fruit of an ever-green tree, similar to the lemon. Excepting its rind, for preserves, the fruit is seldom made use of by us. The citron was first brought from Assyria into Greece, and thence into the southern parts of Europe.

Q. For what are the lemon and citron particularly valuable?

A. For their very agreeable acid juices.

CHAPTER XXVI.

Of Aromatic Spices, &c.

Q. WHAT is aromatic?

A. Any thing that is fragrant or sweet to the smell, and hot to the taste.

Q. What is the meaning of the word spice?

A. This name includes every kind of fruit that has

aromatic qualities; such as pepper, nutmeg, ginger, cinnamon and cloves.

Q. What is pepper?

A. It is the fruit of a shrub growing in several parts of the East Indies.

Q. What is nutmeg?

A. The kernel of a large fruit (like a peach) which grows in the East Indies.

Q. What are cloves?

A. A sort of fruit or berry from the East Indies, where it grows on a tree twenty feet high, the leaves of which resemble those of the bay tree.

Q. What is ginger?

A. The root of an Indian plant, of a yellowish colour, and very hot to the taste; used in cookery as a spice, and by apothecaries as a medicine.

Q. What is cinnamon?

A. The bark of an aromatic tree, growing in Ceylon.

CHAPTER XXVII.

Of Gems, and Precious Stones.

Q. What means the word gem?

A. Gem is a common name for all precious stones, or jewels.

Q. What is the diamond?

A. A precious stone, being the hardest and most valuable of all gems.

Q. Where are diamonds found?

A. Only in the East Indies and in Brazil.

Q. What is crystal?

A. A transparent stone, white like the diamond, but much inferior in lustre and hardness; principally found in the island of Madagascar.

Q. What is a ruby?

A. A red sparkling gem, of the first rank among precious stones; found in the East Indies, and in Hungary.

Q. What is an emerald?

A. A lustrous stone, of a beautiful green, mostly found in the East Indies.

Q. What is a topaz?

A. The third order of the gems after the diamond; transparent, and of a beautiful yellow. It is to be found in the Indies, Arabia, and Peru.

Q. What is a chrysolite*?

A. A precious stone of a dusky green colour, with a cast of yellow.

Q. What is the sapphire?

A. A precious stone of a beautiful sky colour, transparent, and very hard. Sapphires of Peru are most esteemed.

Q. What is the garnet?

A. A precious stone of a high red colour found in the East Indies.

Q. What is the amethyst?

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* Chrysolite, pronounced Kris'-so-lite.

A. A precious stone of a violet colour, bordering on purple.

Q. What is the beryl?

A. A transparent stone, brought from India, of a light green colour.

Q. What is a cornelian?

A. A precious stone, of which there are three sorts; red, yellow, and white; the finest are brought from near Babylon.

Q. Are pearls like other precious stones?

A. No, these beautiful ornaments are found in different kinds of shell-fish, especially oysters. The best pearls are obtained from the shell-fish found on the coasts of Persia.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

Of Hops, Flax, Hemp, &c.

Q. WHAT are hops?

A. The flower of a curious plant which was brought to England in the reign of King Henry the Eighth. It grows to a great height, twining round long poles.

Q. In what part of England are hops chiefly cultivated?

A. In Kent, Surrey, Sussex, and Hampshire, flourishing mostly in a rich soil.

Q. Of what use are hops?

A. Hops are chiefly used as a bitter in brewing, to prevent beer from turning sour.

Q. What is flax?

A. A beautiful plant, cultivated only in rich ground, with slender stalks, small leaves, and blue blossoms.

Q. In what manner is it cultivated?

A. It is sown the same as other seeds, generally in April, but one sowing will produce two or three crops before it needs to be renewed.

Q. Has the seed any peculiar property?

A. Yes, several valuable properties; it is used in many medicines; and yields an excellent oil, called linseed oil. The fibres of its stalks are manufactured into linen.

Q. How is linen made?

A. The stalks of the flax are gathered and soaked in water, to loosen the fibres from the stem; they are beaten with a wooden instrument called a *brake*, which removes all the brittle parts of the stem, and leaves only the smooth shining fibres, which are properly called flax: this is spun into thread, and then sent to the weaver, who forms it into linen, in his loom.

Q. Why is the seed of flax called linseed?

A. The Latin of flax is *linum*, hence we have the name of lin, which joined to seed, makes lin-seed.

Q. What is hemp?

A. A very useful plant, resembling the common nettle, and much like flax in its culture and use.

Q. What are principally made from hemp?

A. Ropes and cables.

Q. What is tow?

A. The refuse of hemp after it has been dressed.

CHAPTER XXIX.

Of Ivory.

Q. WHAT is ivory?

A. The teeth or Tusks, in shape somewhat resembling a horn, which grow on each side of the trunk of the elephant.

Q. Whence have we the best?

A. From Ceylon.

Q. Where is Ceylon?

A. In the East Indies.

Q. Why is this the best?

A. Because it never turns yellow.

Q. Have the shavings of ivory any peculiar property?

A. Yes; boiled to a jelly, they possess the same restorative power as hartshorn.

CHAPTER XXX.

Of Paper, Parchment, Silk, Leather, &c.

Q. WHAT is paper?

A. A substance made from linen rags.

Q. How is paper made?

A. The rags are first taken to the mill; then sorted; next put into an engine placed in a large trough filled with water, and then torn and beaten to a pulp.

Moulds, or frames, are then dipped into the trough, and shaken about until the requisite quantity of pulp is rightly disposed in them; when it is turned out, as paper, sheet after sheet, pressed, dried, rubbed smooth, sized, and made ready to receive writing, printing, drawing, &c.

Q. What is size?

A. A sticky substance like glue, made of parchment and vellum shavings.

Q. What is common glue?

A. The sinews and feet of animals boiled down to a strong jelly.

Q. Are there not several sorts of paper?

A. Yes; the common writing and printing paper; the Egyptian paper, made of the rush *papyrus**; bark paper, of the inner rind of several trees; cotton paper; coarse brown paper, made from old ropes, &c.

Q. What is parchment?

A. The skins of sheep and goats, prepared in a peculiar manner.

Q. What is silk?

A. The web of a sort of caterpillar, called the silkworm, which lives on mulberry leaves. These webs, after being wound off, are spun into silk thread by a machine, and this thread is afterwards

* From the name of this plant, called *papyrus*, which grows wild on the banks of the Nile, we derive our word *paper*.

woven into the beautiful silk of which ladies' gowns are made.

Q. What is leather?

A. The skins of various animals tanned and dressed.

Q. What is tanning?

A. Tanning is a process which expels from the pores of the skin all the greasy particles, and substitutes a preparation of bark, by which it is preserved.

CHAPTER XXXI.

Of Titles and Distinctions.

Q. WHAT is a title?

A. An appellation or name of honour.

Q. What is an emperor?

A. A title given to the supreme ruler of a large extent of country, composed of various nations and people.

Q. What is a king?

A. A title given (as in England, France, &c.) to the head or chief ruler of a country.

Q. What is a sultan?

A. A title of the emperor of the Turks; who is also called the Grand Signior.

Q. What is a czar*?

A. A title formerly assumed by the emperor of Russia; being a corruption of Cæsar, on account of some fancied relation to the Roman emperors.

* Czar, pronounced Zar.

Q. What is a dey?

A. The title of the sovereign of Algiers.

Q. What is a bey?

A. The governor of a country, or town, in the Turkish empire.

CHAPTER XXXII.

Of the Nobility of England.

Q. WHAT is the nobility of England called?

A. The peerage of England.

Q. Of what does the peerage consist?

A. Of dukes, marquesses, earls, viscounts, barons, and bishops.

Q. What is a duke?

A. The title of honour next below a prince.

Q. What is a marquess?

A. The title of honour next below a duke.

Q. What degree of honour is an earl?

A. That degree next below a marquess, and above a viscount.

Q. What degree is a viscount?

A. The next below an earl, and above a baron.

Q. What is a baron?

A. A degree of nobility next below that of viscount.

Q. What is a lord?

A. A title of honour given to all the sons of a duke or marquess, and to the eldest son of an earl, &c.

Q. What is a bishop?

A. A clergyman at the head of a diocese.

Q. Why are bishops included in the peerage?

A. Because all bishops are entitled to sit in the House of Peers, in right of certain lands, *supposed* to be annexed to their title.

CHAPTER XXXIII.

Of the Comomnalty of England.

Q. Of what does the commonalty of England consist?

A. Of baronets, knights, esquires, gentlemen, tradesmen, artificers, labourers, &c.

Q. What is a baronet?

A. The only hereditary title enjoyed by the commonalty.

Q. How is the title of baronet obtained?

A. It is given by the king for some eminent act; and, after death, it descends to the eldest son, or heir at law.

Q. What is a knight?

A. A title given to a person by the king, for life only.

Q. What are the different orders of knighthood in Great Britain?

A. There are knights of the order of the garter, of the thistle, of the bath, of St. Patrick, of St. Michael, and St. George, and what are termed simple knights.

Q. Which is the highest order of knighthood?

A. That of the garter, of which the king himself is the head.

Q. How are baronets distinguished in their coats of arms?

A. By the representation of a bloody hand.

Q. How are knights distinguished?

A. By a helmet.

Q. What is an esquire?

A. In law, esquires consist of the eldest sons of the younger sons of peers; of the eldest sons of knights, and their eldest sons in succession; of gentlemen possessing estates worth three hundred pounds a year; of barristers at law; and of all persons holding offices of trust under the crown.

Q. Are there no other persons addressed as esquires?

A. Yes; the title is applied, by courtesy, to most persons not engaged in trade or in mechanical pursuits.

CHAPTER XXXIV.

Of Accent and Emphasis.

Q. WHAT is meant by accent?

A. By accent is meant the giving every word its proper sound, by laying a greater stress on one syllable than another; as in the word al'phabet, where the accent is on the first syllable *al;* but if I remove it, it will be alpha'bet, or alphabe't, giving quite another pronunciation.

Q. What is meant by the double accent?

A. The double accent is made use of, to shew that the consonant which is joined to the second or third syllable, &c. is to be pronounced also with the one preceding; thus, a''cid is pronounced as-sid.

Q. What is meant by emphasis?

A. As the accent belongs to every word, so does the emphasis to every sentence: and it consists in laying a greater stress on one word than on another, to make the full force of the expression better understood.

CHAPTER XXXV.

Of Punctuation.

Q. WHAT is meant by punctuation?

A. Punctuation is the art of dividing a written or printed composition into sentences, or parts of sentences, for the purpose of duly marking the different pauses or rests.

Q. How many points and stops are there?

A. The principal are six, viz.

A comma marked.....thus ,
A semicolon .....thus ;
A colon ....thus :
A period, or full stop .....thus .
A note of interrogation .....thus ?
A note of admiration ..... thus !

Q. What time must you stop at each of these points?

A. At a comma, while I can count one;
At the semicolon, while two;
At the colon, while three;
At the period, while four;
At the note of interrogation, while six.
At the note of admiration, while six.

Q. Of what use is the period?

A. The period marks a whole or complete sentence.

Q. Of what use is the colon?

A. The colon is used to mark the chief member of a sentence.

Q. Of what use is the semicolon?

A. To divide a sentence into parts more dependant on each other than those marked with a colon, but not so closely connected as those which are separated by a comma.

Q. Of what use is the comma?

A. The comma is used to separate those parts of a sentence, which though very closely connected in sense, require a brief pause between them.

Q. What is the use of the note of interrogation?

A. It denotes that a question is asked.

Q. Of what use is the note of admiration?

A. It denotes surprise or wonder, or any sudden emotion of the mind.

CHAPTER XXXVI.

Of Characters used in Writing.

Q. WHAT other marks or characters are made use of in writing?

A. A parenthesis marked..thus ( )
An apostrophe ....thus '
A caret ... .thus ʌ
A byphen.. .....thus -

A paragraph.....thus ¶
A quotation.....thus " "
An index, or hand .....thus ☞
A section.....thus §
An asterisk, or star .....thus *
An obelisk, or dagger .. thus †
Parallels.....thus ‖

Q. Of what use are these marks?

A. The parenthesis is used to inclose words, which, in reading the sentence, might be omitted without injury to the sense.

The apostrophe is used to abbreviate a word.

The caret is used where a word is left out in writing.

The hyphen is used to join words together; as lap-dog, to-morrow.

The paragraph is placed at the beginning of a new discourse.

The quotation is used to signify that the words so marked are borrowed from other writings,

The index points to something very remarkable.

The section is used to divide a discourse into less parts or portions,

The asterisk, the obelisk, and parallels, refer to something in the margin, or to notes at the bottom of the page.

Q. What are abbreviations?

A. Initial letters, signifying whole words: such as A. D. for *Anno Domini*, the year of our Lord; B. A. Bachelor of Arts, &c.

CHAPTER XXXVII.

Bread.

Q. WHAT is bread?

A. Bread, the chief support of man, is a baked mass of dough, formed from the flour of some grain, such as wheat, rye, and barley, or a mixture of these; but bread in general, and which is the most wholesome, is made of the best wheaten flour, salt, yeast, and water. This is called the common white, or family bread.

Q. How is such family bread made?

A. To half a bushel of wheaten flour are added six or eight ounces of salt, a pint of yeast, and six quarts of water. When mixed together, it is covered up with a blanket, and this operation is technically called *setting the sponge*; flour is then added, and the mass is kneaded till it attains a proper consistency.

Q. What is then done?

A. It must stand for four or five hours, till properly risen, then it is made into loaves, and afterwards baked in the oven which has been prepared for that purpose.

Q. How many pounds does a sack of flour contain?

A. About 280 pounds; and should make 80 quartern (or quarter of a peck) loaves, allowing three and a half pounds of flour for each loaf.

Q. What does a quartern loaf weigh?

A. Before the quartern loaf goes into the oven, it

weighs four pounds fifteen ounces, but loses nine or ten ounces in baking.

Q. Are quartern loaves, half-peck loaves, and peck loaves, now sold by the London bakers?

A. No; bakers may now make their loaves of what size and weight they please, and sell them by the pound.

Q. What does the loaf, now generally used as the quartern loaf, weigh?

A. It should weigh four pounds.

Q. What other kinds of bread are there besides the white or family bread?

A. The principal are the *wheaten* and the *household bread*.

Q. How is each of these made?

A. The *wheaten bread* is made of flour with a mixture or the fine bran; and the *household*, with the whole substance of the grain, without taking out either the coarse bran of the fine flour.

Q. What is French bread?

A. It is a fine, or *fancy* bread, prepared with warm milk, instead of water, and having the addition of eggs, and fresh butter. This and the different breads above mentioned, are what is called leavened bread.

Q. What is *unleavened bread?*

A. Unleavened bread is made of flour mixed with water. The sea and other biscuits; the Jews' passover cake; the oaten and barley bread of Scotland, &c. are of this nature.

CHAPTER XXXVIII.

Butter.

Q. WHAT is butter?

A. A rich and rather oily substance in common use, made from cream by churning.

Q. How much butter is said to be consumed in London annually?

A. Fifty thousand tons.

Q. What is a ton?

A. Twenty hundred-weight.

Q. What is a hundred-weight?

A. One hundred and twelve pounds.

Q. Which of the counties in England are supposed to produce the greatest quantity of butter?

A. The counties of Suffolk and Cambridge, which are said to furnish London with fifty thousand firkins every year.

Q. How many pounds does a firkin of butter contain?

A. Fifty pounds.

CHAPTER XXXIX.

Cheese.

Q. From what is cheese made?

A. Cheese is made from milk, after the cream has been taken off for the churning of butter. The thin liquid which then remains is curdled by means of a

rennet*, squeezed dry in a press, formed into shape, and then left to harden by time.

Q. Which are the cheeses most esteemed?

A. The English cheeses most esteemed are the *Stilton*, *double Gloucester*, *Cheddar*, and *Cheshire cheese*; but the most celebrated is called the *Stilton*.

Q. Whence does the Stilton cheese receive its name?

A. From the small town of Stilton in Huntingdonshire, which has long been celebrated for its cheese; but the principal part that goes under this name is made at Melton Mowbray, in Leicestershire; and much is made all throughout the counties of Huntingdon, Rutland, and Northamptonshire.

Q. Is this the case with the other cheeses of which we have spoken?

A. Yes; the Cheshire and Gloucester cheeses are still distinguished by the names of those counties; but they also are made in many other parts of England.

Q. Is that high colour which we see in cheese its natural one, or is it not?

A. No: its natural colour is white; but the high colour which we generally see, is made by putting a little annatto with the milk before it is turned. No cheese will look yellow without this addition, which is perfectly innocent, but does not, in the least, add to the goodness of the cheese.

* Rennet is an acid preparation, from the stomach of a calf.

Q. What is annatto?

A. Annatto, or arnotto, is a Spanish drug used in dyeing. It is prepared from the pulp of a curious shrub, which grows in the West Indies.

CHAPTER XL.

Manufactures.

Q. WHAT is glass, and how is it produced?

A. Glass is a solid, transparent, brittle substance, produced by melting together sand, flint, and alkaline salt*.

Q. How many sorts of glass are there?

A. Five; namely, *crown-glass*, *Newcastle-glass*, the *bottle*, or *green-glass*, the *flint-glass* and the *plate-glass*.

Q. Which of these is the most valuable?

A. The most valuable of these is the plate-glass, so called from its being cut into plates or large sheets; and is almost exclusively employed for mirrors or looking-glasses, and for the windows of carriages.

Q. What is wool?

A. Wool is the fleece, or external covering of a sheep?

Q. How is it manufactured?

A. Having been shorn from the animal, it is picked

* Alkaline salt is procured from potash, from the Levant. It is so called from the Arabian word *kali*, *glass-wort*, which, having been burnt to ashes, is boiled in water; and, after evaporation, the white salt remaining, is *sal kali*, or *alkali*.

and sorted; and then freed from every impurity. The wool-comber afterwards prepares it for the spinner, by whom it is twisted into thread, called worsted or yarn.

Q. How is the yarn or worsted used?

A. It is woven in a loom into cloths, flannels, or stockings, of various degrees of fineness.

Q. What is cotton?

A. It is the produce of a tree, or shrub, that grows in warm climates.

Q. What are the purposes for which it is used?

A. It is made into muslins, calicos, sheeting, bed furniture, curtains, &c.

Q. How is it wrought into such articles?

A. It is woven in a manner similar to wool.

Q. How are carpets made?

A. Carpets are also woven, in upright looms, different from those used for woollen cloths, cotton goods, &c.

Q. What are hats made of?

A. They are made of the fine hair of animals, felted or beaten, and then gummed together till the parts firmly adhere.

Q. What are shoes and gloves made of?

A. Of leather, or the hides of animals tanned.

Q. Where are knives, scissars, and other steel articles made?

A. Chiefly at Birmingham in Warwickshire, and Sheffield in Yorkshire.

CHAPTER XLI.

Various Sorts of Wood.

Q. What is oak timber?

A. The wood of a tree which, from an acorn or small nut, grows to a large size.

Q. What are the uses of oak?

A. It is used by the carpenter for all sorts of wood-work, in churches and houses, and for building of ships, being remarkable for strength and durability.

Q. What is fir or deal?

A. It is the wood of the pine or fir-tree, which attains a large size in Norway, and other cold countries.

Q. What is mahogany?

A. Mahogany is the wood of a large spreading tree, which grows to an immense size in the West-Indies and in South America.

Q. For what is it chiefly used?

A. For the manufacture of tables, chairs, and other household furniture.

Q. What is cedar?

A. It is the wood of a large tree which grows in eastern countries.

Q. For what is it chiefly used in England?

A. In the manufacture of cabinet work, and black lead pencils.

Q. What are the properties of cedar?

A. It has a fragrant smell; and when converted into drawers, boxes, &c. it is supposed to protect their contents against moths, and other insects.

Q. What is rose wood?

A. It is the beautiful wood of a tree, which grows in the West Indies, and is much used in ornamental cabinet work.

CHAPTER XLII.

Liquids, Fluids, and Solids.

Q. What are liquids?

A. Liquids and fluids are substances which yield to pressure, and flow readily.

Q. What is the difference between liquids and fluids.

A. All liquids are fluid, but all fluids are not liquids. Liquids are *wet* substances; such as water, wine, beer, milk, &c., but fluids may be either *wet* or *dry*.

Q. Give me an example?

A. Water, which is *wet*, is a fluid; but air, lightning, &c. which are *dry*, but possess the property of *flowing*, are also fluids, though not liquids.

Q. What are solids?

A. Solids are the opposites of liquids and fluids: they are substances which do not yield to pressure, and which cannot *flow*, or be poured, from one vessel into another; as bread, wood, &c.

Q. Is sugar a liquid or a solid?

A. Sugar is a solid.

Q. When put into a liquid, it melts or dissolves: when thus dissolved, has it become a liquid?

A. No; it has lost the properties of a solid, and is said to be in a state of solution.

Q. What is sugar?

A. It is the dried juice, or sap, of the sugar-cane; a beautiful plant, cultivated chiefly in the West-Indies.

CHAPTER XLIII.

Miscellanies.

Q. WHAT is rhubarb?

A. The root of a tree, or plant, growing in Turkey, and in other parts; very serviceable in medicine.

Q. What is Peruvian bark?

A. The bark of the quinquinna tree, growing in and about Peru, in South America. It was first discovered by the Jesuits, a religious society in Spain, whence it is frequently called the Jesuits' bark.

Q. What is gum Arabic?

A. A kind of white gum brought from Turkey and Arabia.

Q. What is oil?

A. Oil (of which there are many sorts) is a liquid substance, obtained from olives, from various seeds, and from the fat of whales, and other fishes.

Q. What is castor oil?

A. Castor oil is extracted from a tree, called by the Americans Palma-Christi, growing in the West-Indies.

Q. What is fullers' earth?

A. A sort of marl, of great use in cleansing and

praparing wool; it abounds in Bedfordshire, Worcestershire, and Shropshire.

Q. What is sponge?

A. A soft porous substance found sticking to rocks, and thought to have animal life. It is remarkable for sucking up water.

CHAPTER XLIV.

Miscellanies (continued).

Q. What is cork?

A. The bark of the cork tree; a kind of oak growing in Italy, Spain, Portugal, &c.

Q. What is common salt?

A. Sea-water dried.

Q. What is rice?

A. A grain or seed growing in the East and West Indies. The plant which produces it flourishes in low marshy places, and is reaped, when ripe, as corn is with us.

Q. What is mustard?

A. The mustard-plant seed ground into flour. It is common all over England.

Q. What is ink?

A. A liquid used to write with; made of galls, copperas, gum, and water.

Q. What are galls?

A. They are excrescences, or lumps, found on trees, and are formed there by insects.

Q. What is copperas?

A. It is a metallic salt formed by the action of sulphuric acid (commonly called oil of vitriol) on iron.

Q. What are pens?

A. They are made from quills, or the long feathers that grow in the wings of geese. The quills of other birds are frequently used for the same purpose; crow quills especially, by those who wish to write a fine running hand. Pens of late have frequently been made of steel and silver.

Q. How are candles made?

A. By dipping cotton wicks into a vessel of melted tallow, which adheres to the cotton; the operation is repeated until they have attained a sufficient thickness. Mould candles are formed by pouring the tallow into metal tubes, or moulds, through which the wicks have been previously passed.

Q. What is tallow?

A. The fat of animals melted and purified.

Q. Are candles made of anything else besides tallow?

A. They are also made of wax, a substance collected by bees, and spermaceti, which is found in the head of some kinds of whales.

CHAPTER XLV.

Historical Facts.

Q. When was the world created?

A. About six thousand years ago.

Q. What became of the first race of men?

A. On account of their sins, which were very great, they were destroyed by a flood, which is usually called the Universal Deluge.

Q. Did any escape?

A. Yes, Noah and his three sons, with their wives, were saved in a kind of ship called an ark. From them all the men and women in the world are descended.

Q. Which were the four great empires?

A. The Assyrian, Persian, Grecian, and Roman empires.

Q. What do you mean by an empire?

A. Several great nations, governed by a single head, or ruler.

Q. Which of the four empires was the greatest?

A. The Roman; and it also lasted the longest.

Q. When was Jesus Christ born?

A. Eighteen hundred and thirty-six years ago.

Q. Who was Mohammed?

A. An imposter, who appeared in Arabia about six hundred years after Christ, and there founded a new religion.

Q. What nations profess the false religion of Mohammed?

A. The principal are the Persians in Asia, the Turks in Europe, and the Moors in Africa.

Q. By whom was America discovered?

A. By Christopher Columbus, a native of Genoa in Italy.

Q. Who was the first that sailed round the world?

A. Magellan, a Spanish admiral.

Q. What do you mean by an admiral?

A. One who commands a fleet, that is several ships.

Q. Who was the first Englishman that sailed round the earth?

A. Sir Francis Drake; in the reign of Elizabeth.

Q. What is meant by the Reformation?

A. The alterations made by Martin Luther in religion. The principal was throwing off the authority of the pope.

Q. What was the Revolution?

A. The people of England being badly treated by James the Second, deprived him of his crown, and chose William, prince of Orange, as their king.

Q. Who is the present king of England?

A. William the Fourth.

Q. From what family is he descended?

A. From the family or house of Brunswick, who inherit the English throne in right of the princess Sophia, a daughter of James the First, from whom they are descended.

Q. Has our present monarch any other dominions besides those of England?

A. Yes; he is king of Hanover in Germany, and has also extensive colonies in every quarter of the globe.

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